

ALBAN16.001APC

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

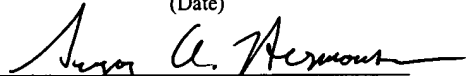
Applicant : Rathakrishnan, et al.
U.S. Appl. No. : Unassigned
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Examiner : Unassigned
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

October 19, 2004

(Date)


Gregory A. Hermanson, Reg. No. 53,018

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Applicant submits the following amendment for consideration in connection with and prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 8 of this paper.

Abstract begins on page 17 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 18 of this paper.